

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-07
NSAE-00 ARA-06 EA-07 NEA-10 AID-05 TRSE-00 OMB-01
PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 /084 W
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R 062333Z JUN 77
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3898
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
AMCONSUL CAPETOWN

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, US, UN, LT, BC, WZ
SUBJECT: PLEDGING CONFERENCE ON ASSISTANCE FOR LESOTHO
AND BOTSWANA

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1. UN PLEDGING CONFERENCE FOR ASSISTANCE TO LESOTHO AND
BOTSWANA WAS HELD MORNING OF JUNE 6. SYG WALDHEIM CHAIRED
THE MEETING AND SPOKE IN SUPPORT OF ASSISTANCE TO THE TWO
COUNTRIES. HE WAS FOLLOWED BY UNHCR REP DAYAL AND ASYG
FARAH. FON MIN MOGWE OF BOTSWANA AND LESOTHO FINANCE MINISTER
E.R. SEKHONYANA SPOKE FOR THEIR COUNTRIES (EACH ONE THANKED
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THE US AND OTHER COUNTRIES FOR THE ASSISTANCE THEY HAVE
PROVIDED IN THE PAST AND ARE CURRENTLY PROVIDING.) UK
(SPEAKING ALSO FOR THE EC-9), US (STATEMENT BELOW), CANADA,
SWEDEN, IRELAND, NORWAY, DENMARK, NETHERLANDS, LIBYA, ISRAEL,
MOROCCO, FRG, THE WORLD BANK, AND THE OAU ALSO SPOKE.

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2. COMMENT: AS NOTED FROM THE SPEAKERS LIST, THERE WAS CON-
SPICUOUS SILENCE FROM SEVERAL REGIONAL GROUPS, AND EVEN
MOST OF THOSE WHO SPOKE ONLY UNDERLINED WHAT THEY HAD
GIVEN IN PAST, RATHER THAN ANNOUNCING NEW PLEDGES. FOR
THAT REASON, PLEDGE OF \$5.5-6 MILLION BY THE US WAS WARMLY
RECEIVED, LEADING TO IMMEDIATE REQUEST BY FONMIN MOGWE
AND FINANCE MINISTER E.R. SEKHONYANA FOR MEETINGS WITH US AID
OFFICIAL PIELEMEIER. (DETAILS TO FOLLOW). EXCEPT FOR THE
TEMPORARY PRESENCE OF A ROMANIAN, THE EASTERN EUROPEANS BOYCOTTED
THE MEETING COMPLETELY AND UK PERM REP RICHARD NOTED IN HIS
STATEMENT THAT "ONE MAJOR GROUP OF DEVELOPED NATIONS, WHO
COULD PROVIDE ASSISTANCE IN THIS SITUATION, IS VIRTUALLY
UNREPRESENTED." BELIEVE PRESS COULD FIND DEVELOPMENT OF INTEREST.
USUN CANNOT REMEMBER SIMILAR INCIDENT; EVEN THE SOVIETS DID
NOW SHOW UP TO GIVE AT LEAST ORAL SUPPORT TO THIS AFRICAN
CAUSE. WE DO NOT YET KNOW WHY THEY STAYED AWAY, BUT WILL ATTEMPT
TO CHECK FURTHER THIS WEEK.

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3. TEXT OF STATEMENT DELIVERED BY AMB LEONARD FOLLOWS:

QUOTE STATEMENT ON AID TO BOTSWANA AND LESOTHO

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MR. SECRETARY GENERAL

IT WAS WITH GREAT SATISFACTION THAT THE UNITED STATES
VOTED IN FAVOR OF SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS 406 AND
407 WHICH CALLED THE ATTENTION OF THE WORLD COMMUNITY
TO THE PROBLEMS THRUST UPON BOTSWANA AND LESOTHO AS A
RESULT OF THEIR COURAGEOUS STANDS AGAINST THE POLICIES
OF APARTHEID AND MINORITY RULE PURSUED BY SOME OF THEIR
NEIGHBORS.

THOSE RESOLUTIONS ALSO CALLED UPON THE MEMBER STATES
OF THE UNITED NATIONS TO OPEN THEIR PURSES AS WELL AS
THEIR HEARTS AND TO GIVE AS GENEROUSLY AS POSSIBLE TO
OFFSET THE PRESSURES ON THESE BRAVE NATIONS - PRESSURES
RESULTING FROM BORDER INCURSIONS, ATTEMPTS AT ECONOMIC
COERCION, DROUGHT AND THE INFLUX OF GREAT NUMBERS OF
REFUGEES. THE COGENT AND INFORMATIVE ADDRESSES WE HAVE
HEARD TODAY FROM YOU, MR. SECRETARY GENERAL, AND THE
OTHER DISTINGUISHED SPEAKERS HAVE UNDERLINED THE NECESSITY
FOR PROMPT AND EFFECTIVE ACTION, AS THE PROBLEMS WE
ADDRESSED SO RECENTLY IN RESOLUTIONS IN THE SECURITY

COUNCIL HAVE, AS THE SPEAKERS HAVE UNDERLINED, WORSENE
IN THIS SHORT TIME.

WHEN THIS DELEGATION VOTED FOR THE SECURITY COUNCIL
RESOLUTIONS IN MAY WE NOTED THAT THE UNITED STATES ALREADY
PROVIDES BILATERAL ASSISTANCE TO BOTH BOTSWANA AND
LESOTHO. IN BOTSWANA MY COUNTRY NOW HELPS WITH SEVERAL
AGRICULTURAL AND EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS AND WE WILL PROVIDE
ASSISTANCE TO THE UNIVERSITY OF BOTSWANA AND SWAZILAND.
IN LESOTHO, WE HAVE DECIDED TO CARRY OUT NEXT MONTH A
FEASIBILITY STUDY FOR THE CONVERSION TO AN ALL-WEATHER
SURFACE OF THE SOUTHERN PERIMETER ROAD, JUST MENTIONED BY
THE DISTINGUISHED MINISTER OF FINANCE. WHEN COMPLETED,
THIS PROJECT, RECOMMENDED IN THE FARAH REPORT, WILL COST
BETWEEN \$15 MILLION - \$20 MILLION.

THE EXCELLENT REPORTS BY ASSISTANT SECRETARY GENERAL
FARAH, THE LETTERS OF APRIL 18 FROM SECRETARY GENERAL
WALDHEIM AND THE APPEALS WE HAVE HEARD HERE THIS MORNING
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ARE, HOWEVER, CONVINCING PROOF THAT THE HELP WE AND OTHERS
HAVE BEEN GIVING IS NO LONGER ENOUGH.

AT THE BEGINNING OF MY STATEMENT I NOTED THAT THE
UNITED STATES VOTED FOR THE SUPPORTING RESOLUTIONS WITH
GREAT SATISFACTION. IT IS WITH EQUAL SATISFACTION THAT
I ANNOUNCE TODAY THE COMMITMENT IN PRINCIPLE OF THE UNITED
STATES, SUBJECT TO THE COMPLETION OF OUR AUTHORIZATION
PROCESSES, TO CONTRIBUTE BETWEEN \$5.5 MILLION AND \$6 MILLION
TO A SPECIAL FUND OF THE UN HIGH COMMISSION FOR REFUGEES,
TO BE USED FOR THE EDUCATION OF REFUGEES IN BOTSWANA.
IT IS MY UNDERSTANDING THAT THERE WILL BE FORTHCOMING
ADDITIONAL REQUESTS FOR AID FOR REFUGEES, DESIGNED TO
HELP LESOTHO. MY GOVERNMENT WOULD BE PLEASED TO CONSIDER
SUCH REQUESTS. UNQUOTE

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